Care of Yearling Colts.

Like children, the future usefulness of horses depends a good deal upon their early environment. Colts usually make good progress during the first half year of their lives, and if they are kept going during the late fall, will pull through the first winter in fairly good fit. But with the coming of the second spring the yearling is launched upon a crucial period. It is usually during the second summer that habits are contracted and the foundation of the future horse is laid.

Good pasture and good fences generally ensure healthy development and good manners. If the grass becomes short, and constant nibbling is required to satisfy hunger's cravings, the colts will become restless in disposition, and will not make sufficient growth of flesh, and if the fences are weak, they will not be long in learning the habit of breaking bounds.

Horse-raisers are often disappointed with the results of the first month's grazing in the spring, largely because the grass is soft and the change from winter feeding too sudden. During this time some good horsemen practice feeding grain until the grass becomes more matured, and in times of high prices for horses, such as the present, the practice is well repaid by extra gains. Pure water, and plenty of it, is also an important factor in the raising of young horses.

Later in the season, when the grass becomes dry, the days hot, and the flies a continual annoyance, the benefits of shade will be much appreciated. Most pasture fields contain a few trees, and where the shade of these is not available, it is time and money well expended to build a rough shed, where the colts can escape from the heat of the sun for a few hours in each day.

This is the day of the three-horse team. The four-horse hitch will soon succeed it.

LIVE STOCK.

Shropshires at Shrewsbury.

Canadians will be interested in a brief summary of the Shropshire and West Midland Show, held at Shrewsbury, England, June 6-9, which was attended by a very large concourse of people, including the Hon. John Dryden, Mr. Robert Miller, of Canada; Mr. Geo. McKerrow, Mr. Wardell, Mr. Chandler, from the United States; Mr. Davenport, from Australia, and representative buyers from the Argentine, etc.

The Shropshire sheep were, as usual, the feature of this show, though we have seen better and also larger classes in former years, viewing the entry as a whole.

Sir Richard Cooper won first and second for yearling rams, the former decision being considered by many one of the most unsatisfactory seen for many years at this show, because the unfortunate preference given this sheep by the judge resulted in Sir Richard's second entry, a grand type of its breed, with excellent flesh and character, being relegated to the second position, and thus prevented from winning the Mansell Memorial Challenge Cup, offered for the best ram, as he was justly entitled to. However, Sir Richard Cooper's entry in the two-year-old class was a real good ram, and he won both the class prize and also the Mansell Memorial Cup. Third honors in the yearling ram class went to Sir P. A. Muntz for a ram of good scale and style. Mr. Victor Cavendish took fourth honors with a good-fleeced ram that stood out well, but was lacking somewhat in quality of flesh. The r. n. ram, owned by Mr. M. Williams, was one of the right stamp, and, though in show-yard parlance he was hardly forward enough to win, he will unquestionably make a grand stud sheep.

The second winner in the old sheep class came from Mr. T. S. Minton, the third from Mr. A. S. Berry, and the r. n. from Mr. Victor Cavendish.

The class for pens of three yearling rams made a very superior entry. The winning pen, owned by Mr. M. Williams, was correctly placed. They won clearly, were wonderfully well matched, most typical of their breed, with good coats and skin. Second honors went to Mr. E. Nock's pen; rather more size was found in these sheep. They were, however, not quite so good to the touch, but equally typical and well grown. Third honors went to Sir W. Corbet. This trio were not quite so matching as the other two, nor did they take so well; but no objection could be taken to their position in the class.

A well-brought-out pen was that which won r. n. for Mr. T. S. Minton. It may be mentioned that Mr. M. Williams won the Pettifer Challenge Cup for best pen of rams or ram lambs in the show. The r. n. for this honor was Sir Richard Cooper's grand pen of ram lambs, first in their class. The Exors. of Mr. P. L. Mills came in second, Mr. E. Nock third, and Sir W. O. Corbet fourth, each with very good lambs indeed.

In the excellent class of yearling ewes, Mr. Victor Cavendish won, and his flock has never before been represented by a better pen, of which it may also be stated it had very good quality. Sir R. P. Cooper's real good and well-matched pen of excellently-fleshed ewes had to take second honors, and were preferred by some. The same breeder was third with another pen, which had all the quality of flesh of the former pen, but did not match so well. Sir P. A. Muntz was r. n., with a pen of good ewes, three of which will take a lot of beating in any company. The Exors. of the late Mr. P. L. Mills were h. c., and Sir W. O. Corbet c.

A specially fine pen of ewe lambs won in that class for Mr. T. S. Minton, his fourth annual consecutive win in this particular class. Mr. E. Nock and Sir W. Corbet were second and third.

The class for field yearling ewes was good. All its entries, eight in number, were commended. Messrs. J. Barnet, J. H. N. Walford and Sir R. Cooper were the winners of the three prizes, in the order named.

The exhibits in the district classes were very good indeed. The yearling rams shown singly had for the leading winners the Duke of Sutherland, Mr. J. T. Cole and J. Barnett.

In the pens for two-yearling rams, the Exors. of W. Nevett were first and r. n., with two pens of high merit and superior quality. The Duke of Sutherland came second, and Mr. F. Bibby third.

The Duke of Sutherland won for ewe lambs, and Mr. T. Simon was second.

In the ram lamb class Mr. Walford won first with a very choice pen, indeed; the Duke of Sutherland and Mr. C. T. Pulley were second and third. The open classes were judged by Mr. J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow, and the district classes by Mr. R. F. H. White, Ballacola, Ireland.

W. W. C.

Childwick Champion.

Three-year-old Shire stallion; first at the Royal Show, England, 1905.

Legislative Control of Concentrated Feeding Stuffs.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In recent years the use of concentrated feeding stuffs has become the general practice among the best feeders of the Dominion. Long experience has shown that better results can be obtained in this way. Hay, roots, corn and ensilage form the basis that make up the bulk of the food for live stock, and supply all the starch, sugars and fibre required. They are, however, with the exception of clover and the other legumes, deficient in digestible protein (nitrogenous or flesh-forming material). This being so, the other components (starch, etc.) are in excess of the animal's capacity for assimilating them, and are, therefore, to some extent wasted. Therefore, in purchasing by-products or commercial feeds to supplement home-grown feeds, the keepers of live stock should bear in mind that the value of the food ordinarily depends, to a very large extent, on the quantity of protein and fat which it contains.

At present, the price asked for cattle feeds bears very little relation to their feeding value; that is, food is retailed at so much per ton whether it is rich in protein, and well suited to supplement our ordinary farm feeds, or whether it is a starchy food, and, therefore, of much less value in compounding a suitable ration for cattle. Such being the case, special care in the purchase of feeds, and some knowledge of their chemical composition, will be found of paramount importance in selecting a feed that will produce the greatest profit. Economic purchase, therefore, does not imply the purchase of the lowest-priced feeds. Many of the waste products of our mills are not worthless, but it is important that the purchaser should know what they are, and what relation they bear to standard feeds, bran, etc.

How many of our readers, seeking for some good concentrated feeding stuff, and seeing a particular brand advertised, have been compelled to inquire of their neighbors, or of the vendor, what its value as a food really is, and to accept the information thus gained as, at best, only the opinions of those concerned. Seeing this is so, the question arises, Is there any way whereby the vendor might have definite, reliable information concerning each and every brand of feeding stuffs upon the market?

The Experimental Union of the Ontario Agricultural College has laid this matter before the Minister of Inland Revenue, who appointed as a committee to draft recommendations, Mr. Shutt, Chemist of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa; Mr. Macfarlane, Chemist of the Inland Revenue Department, and the writer.

Two methods of dealing with this matter suggested themselves to the committee: First, that standards be fixed for the various classes of commercial feeds; second, that manufacturers or vendors be compelled to label each package with the net weight of the feed, and the percentage of protein and fat, or, if sold in bulk, to produce on demand a guarantee of the per cent. of the two constituents mentioned.

Regarding the former suggestion, it was thought that the fixing of standards does not exactly meet the case, for, as shown by analyses of these materials, at both the Central Experimental Farm and the Ontario Agricultural College, the percentage of protein and fat varies widely, even in the same brand or class, and, therefore, absolute standards cannot be fixed, and an act purporting to do so, could at best only mention a minimum limit; and, therefore, various feeding stuffs, though differing widely in natural composition, would stand on equal footing in the eye of the law, provided that they tested above the minimum limit of protein and fat, and, therefore, there would be no inducement to manufacture a superior article in a given class. In fact, there would be a tendency to reduce all to the minimum limit. If, however, the second suggestion were followed, the purchaser would be able to judge at once of the relative values of the various brands offered for sale; and as he would, in most instances, purchase the article of higher quality, the inferior ones would naturally drop out of the market.

The committee also recommended "that a comprehensive collection of the concentrated feeding stuffs of the Dominion be made at an early date, including condimental foods, linseed meals, gluten feeds, gluten meals, cotton-seed meals, etc. We further recommend that samples collected be analyzed, and that the results be published in bulletin form."

This recommendation has been acted upon in full, and the information is now to hand in Bulletin No. 16, Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa.

The committe was further of the opinion "that bran, shorts, middlings, the whole grains and meal produced by grinding any one grain should not be included among those feeds to be sold under guarantee," as the composition of these is fairly constant. It may be objected that they are subject to adulteration, but this case is, we think, already covered by our Adulteration of Foods Act, R. S. V., Chaps. 24 and 26.

Several States of the American Union have already enacted laws for the regulation of the sale of concentrated commercial feeds, and it seems to me that public opinion in Canada will not only support, but demands legislative action on the part of the Government.

W. P. GAMBLE.
Ontario Agricultural College.

How the recent revelations of conditions in Chicago packing plants will affect the Canadian stock-raiser is a point of some interest. On the whole, it may be rather to our advantage. At any rate, the health of the people must be paramount to all other considerations, and, in the end, the American meat-producing industry will be better because of the exposure, the compulsory cleaning up, and the more thorough official inspection.

Experiments at the Michigan State Agricultural Experiment Station indicate that tankage can be used to good advantage in the ration for the fattening hog, as well as for the growing pig.